I cannot, in any other way, so succinctly suggest most of the amendments to this law, which, in my judgment, should be adopted, as by referring to the decision of the Court of Appeals, and expressing my conviction, that an amendment which would specifically embrace each and all of the instruments which are decided by the court to be *excluded* by the *phraseology* of the existing law, would receive the almost universal approval of the people, and would double the revenue which is derived from this law as it now stands.

I have received from various sources the suggestion that lottery tickets should be subjected to the provisions of this act. If you can, without danger to the existing revenue which is derived from the lottery system, require that each lottery ticket which shall be hereafter *sold* in this State shall be stamped, and pay ten cents, it would certainly add very much to the revenue which would be derived from this measure, and would, I believe, be applauded by all classes of the community. I am satisfied that no constitutional objection exists to the legislation suggested, unless such an objection may be founded upon the present contract entered into by the Lottery Commissioners of the State, for the drawings of the present year. I have not seen the contract, and have been only informed in reference to it, that it secures to the State for the present fiscal year a sum of $20,000, which is more than double the amount received from this source for the past year. If, upon an examination of the contract, you should be of opinion that the provisions of the Stamp Act could not be extended to the sale of lottery tickets during the continuance of this contract no constitutional impediment can interpose to prevent the adoption of such a provision, to take effect from and after the 1st of December next, the period at which, I believe, the present contract will expire.

It has been estimated by those *who should* be conversant with the subject, that the number of lottery tickets sold in the State during the past year, exceeded one million. If the number sold would be lessened by reason of the imposition of this tax of ten cents upon each ticket, *a great moral result* (unaccomplished by your predecessors when legislating, especially for that purpose,) will have been attained; and if the number sold would not be diminished by the tax, you would still have *consolation* in the reflection, that by placing one hundred thousand dollars additional revenue in the Treasury, every one whose money has been loaned to the people of Maryland upon the pledged faith of the State, will for the future be paid according to the spirit and letter of the contract upon which their money was obtained. Gentlemen, I believe that the adoption of the amendments to this law, which have been suggested, (including *such* of the instruments specified in the second section of the law as introduced at the last session, as in your opinion will not occasion public inconvenience,) will supersede the necessity of an increase in the direct tax; and with the legislation indicated in reference to the other revenue measures reviewed in this communication, will secure the annual payment of the sum specified, as necessary to meet the demands upon the treasury.

I cannot pass from the consideration of this law without adverting to one of its provisions; for the purpose of pressing upon your consideration the importance of adopting a similar provision in reference to all the public revenue which is now collected by the clerks of the county courts and the registers of wills.

By the provisions to which I have reference, the Clerks of the County Courts who are made the recipients of this revenue for the State, are required to pay quarterly to the treasurer the amount received by *them;* and their failure to *pay as required*, is declared a misdemeanor in office, and the Executive is required "upon the rendition of a judgement against the delinquent to consider the *office vacant* and appoint some *other* person to fill it." The effect of this provision, whilst it enables the State to rely with certainty upon the payment of the whole revenue, which shall accrue, at the time it does accrue, is equally salutary to the officer, in its preventive influence upon his use of the public funds. Under our revenue system, I believe that fully one half of the State's revenue will hereafter be collected by the clerks and registers, and the adoption of the *same* provision in reference to all the public money received by these officers which is now provided by the stamp act in reference to the money received by the clerks under its provisions, will effectually secure the *punctual payment* of the public revenue *at the periods specified* in the law, which is the great principle sought after in the enactment of such laws.

The report of the Treasurer will exhibit a general improvement in most of the ordinary sources of revenue; and he will meet you, (after having paid towards the public debt an amount more than equal to one year's interest,) with a surplus of $199,412 in the Treasury.

Before closing the financial portion of this communication, I cannot forbear expressing to you the high sense I entertain of the merits of this officer. His ability, his untiring energy, and unbending honesty, eminently qualify him for the discharge of the arduous duties of this office at the present critical juncture.

I will now proceed to the consideration of the relations of the State to the various works of internal improvement, with which she is connected, and to which you must look for a portion of the revenue required to meet the demands of the treasury.

I will transmit to you the annual report of the Chesapeske and Ohio Canal Company, and also a supplemental report received from that company, giving a detailed account of their proceedings under the act of the last session, chap. 281, entitled "an act to provide for the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to Cumberland, and for other purposes."

Prior to the approval by me of the guarantee, required by the 3rd section of that act, I was furnished by the company at *my request*, with the written opinion of J. V. L. McMahon, Esq., in regard to the legality of the forms of guarantee which had been adopted by the company and submitted for my approval. The supplemental report will give you full information of the security which was given, and will furnish the evidence of sufficiency upon which my approval was based. This report will also convey to you the gratifying intelligence that since the guarantees were approved, the company have *contracted* for the completion of the canal to Cumberland for a sum less than that limited by the provisions of this act.

It is certainly a cause of congratulation that this vexed question, which has for years rested an incubus upon the legislation of the State, may now be considered as settled. In a few years what is now conjecture will be settled by experience; and the interesting problem to the people of Maryland will be solved, whether the annual interest of $400,000, with which the State is now charged for her expenditure on account of this work, will be met by the profits of the work, or continue a perpetual charge upon the people of the State. In my opinion, the wisdom of the legislation of your immediate predecessors will be vindicated by the result; and the people will be at least partially relieved from the taxation consequent upon the advances of the State to this work.

There are some I know, who are opposed to the completion of the canal, upon the ground that a portion of the trade which legitimately belongs to our own commercial emporium, would be thereby withdrawn to the District Cities.

This argument concedes that the canal, when completed, will releive the State, for *the State being entitled to the entire toll of the Canal*, it is manifest that any amount of transportation on it, which could operate injuriously to Baltimore, must necessarily yield a corresponding revenue to the State; and the issue which is raised by this argument is, whether the people of the State will submit to perpetual taxation to the amount of $400,000, the annual interest on the investment in the canal, or risk this conjectural injury to the trade of the city of Baltimore. But this view of the question is too narrow, and those who use it, are attempting to raise a question of antagonist interest between the city of Baltimore and the residue of the State, which can be productive of no good, and which may be the occasion of much evil. There is no man in Maryland who can entertain a more *thorough* conviction than I do, that the prosperity of Baltimore is *essential* to the prosperity of the residue of the State, and of the *equal truth* of the converse of the proposition, that the prosperity of the residue of the State is equally *essential* to the prosperity of Baltimore. I am therefore convinced, that any policy which would paralyze the energies of the one would operate destructively upon the interest of the other; and it follows that no system of legislation can be right, which looks *exclusively—separately*, to the interest of either.

The people of Maryland when through their representatives, they entered upon the system of internal improvement, in the prosecution of which the public debt has been incurred designed to develop the resources of the whole State. The system was not devised—this immense outlay of the public treasure was not designed solely to develop the mineral resources of Allegany, or to afford to the farmers of the upper counties a more accessable or better market, or to throw into the lap of Baltimore the rich products of that fertile region—these were mere incidents of development, the mere consequences of the system—looked to *only as incidents* to the great object of the statesmen who originated this system.

The people, in approving of the system devised, looked beyond the limits of Maryland for the sources of wealth and prosperity which were commensurate with the magnitude of their undertaking.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road, the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail Road and the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal were all designed to have their western termini beyond the limits of the State; and Baltimore city was designed as the eastern terminus of all except the last. We *then* looked to the *great west* as the source from which was to come the passengers and trade, that were to remunerate us for the vast outlay required for the completion of this grand system; and we must *now* look to the same source, or abandon the only object which could justify the magnitude of the original design.

In reference to the westsrn terminus, the destiny of the canal may now be considered as fixed; it must for our day and generation continue within the limits of our State; but its eastern terminus will conform to the original design, if there should be any foundation for the apprehension of those who now oppose its western extension.

We must consequently look to the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road, and its extension to the *Ohio River*, as the *only means* of securing to the State the great advantages which were contemplated from the gigantic scheme, in the prosecution of which the means and credit of the State have been for the time so completely exhausted.

It will be your duty to consider whether you can render any assistance to that company in obtaining from our sister State of Virginia, *a right of way*, that this road may through her territory reach its original destination, the Ohio River. The importance of this extension at this time not only to Virginia and Maryland but also to the country, is greatly increased by the present critical position of the foreign relations of our country.

Since the adjournment of the legislature, the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company have, as authorized by the law of that session, reduced the fare for the transportation of passengers upon the Washington Branch of the road; and I have great pleasure in communicating the fact this experiment has resulted in giving to the State for the last three months, an increased revenue of 1,279.

During the past fiscal year, the State received from the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, for the State's one-fifth of the gross receipts for the transportation of passengers on the Washington Branch the sum of $38,699, and for the same period for dividends $48,000, making an aggregate of receipts from this company of $86,699. By law the sum of 34,069 is appropriated from the State's revenue from the road to the free school fund; and the balance $52,630, is applicable to the demands upon the treasury.

I have received and will transmit the annual report of the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail Road Company. The large investment which the State has in this work will render your attentive supervision of the proceedings of this company a matter of interest to yourselves, and of duty to your constituents. The serious indisposition under which I have suffered since the report was received and my incessant occupation in preparing this communication, have prevented my examining the report with that care which its importance merits.

During the past fiscal year this company has paid to the State the sum of $20,000, and in my opinion you may expect from the same source for the current year a larger sum by at least $5,000.

I have received no communication from the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal Company, but I have the pleasing intelligence to communicate, that during the past fiscal year this company has paid into the treasury the sum of $74,800 leaving unpaid for its entire liabilities to the State for that period the sum of $9,750. You may I think for the current year rely upon receiving from this company the entire amount of its liabilities for that period.

I am still impressed with the importance of having a Board authorized to supervervise the vast interest of the State in her various works of internal improvement; but I will not again press the subject upon the attention of the Legislature.

It is certainly essential to the interest of the State, that *some agent* of the State, should be clothed with the power to control the tariff of tolls established by each company so as to keep them all above the *revenue standard;* and I submit the subject to your consideration as one well worthy of your attention.

It will be necessary that one or more Ware houses should be built in the city of Baltimore for the reception and inspection of tobacco. The inspection has increased during the present year, about twenty thousand hogsheads, and the amount paid by the inspectors for storing the tobacco, which they could not stow in the public Ware houses, has greatly exceeded the interest on the cost of such buildings as are required. If no untoward event should occur to impede the progressive improvement of the country, the city of Baltimore will, in three years, be the largest tobacco mart in the world; and the number of hogsheads inspected at the State Ware houses in that city will reach one hundred thousand.

I have received and will lay before you the last report of the Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary, which will give you full information of the present situation of that institution; and I particularly invite your attention to the conflict which is supposed to exist between the act of 1836, chapter 156, and the act of 1839, chapter 37, that the proper legislative remedy may be applied. This institution has ceased to be an expense to the State, and I am warranted in expressing the opinion that for the past year it has been as judiciously managed in view of the moral improvement of its inmates as any similar institution in the country.

In reference to this subject, I must ask your examination of the existing criminal law of the State, in regard to the punishment of slaves. By the act of 1809, chapter 138, slaves were punished as other persons, by confinement in the Penitentiary; but by subsequent legislation, and as the law now stands, no slave can be confined in that institution, and in regard to slaves, whipping or transportation is substituted as the punishment for all that class of crimes for the commission of which all other persons are confined in the Penitentiary for periods varying from two to twenty years. If, therefore, under the existing law, a person, *other than a slave*, is convicted of murder in the second degree, or any other crime of like magnitude, such person is punished by confinement in the Penitentiary for a period of not less than ten nor more than twenty years; whilst the slave who is convicted of the like offence can *only* be punished by *transportation*—that is, by substituting for his *Master in Maryland* a *Master residing beyond the limits of Maryland*. The glaring inadequacy of this punishment must render comment unnecessary. In another view this inequality and inadequacy of punishment operate against the slave. From the origin of the government, it has been customary for the Executive where persons are sentenced *to death*, of whose guilt he may entertain doubts, or where palliating circumstances may exist, *to pardon, upon condition* of confinement in the Penitentiary for such period as he may designate.—It will be seen that the Executive, under the existing law in the case of a *slave*, would be compelled either to order the execution of the sentence of death, or to substitute *transportation*, which would neither be considered by the slave or the community as any punishment whatever.

I have adverted more fully to this subject because I am placed at this time in a peculiar position. At the last term of Charles County Court, a negro slave was convicted of the crime of *insurrection*, and sentenced to be hanged. I at first delayed the execution of the sentence, to see what would be the verdict and sentence in the case of his associates. The greater portion of *the slaves* who were engaged in this outbreak were *without trial* sold by their Masters, and have been taken out of the State; and a free negro indicted with the slave in question, as the leader in this affair, was convicted of a minor grade of the same offence, and has been sentenced to the Penitentiary for the period of *forty years*.

A memorial very numerously and respectably signed has been presented to me, asking a transmutation of the punishment in this case. If I possessed the power to commute the punishment from death to confinement for life in the Penitentiary, I would not hesitate to do so, but the existing law furnishing no alternative between the punishment of death in such a case and an entire exemption from all punishment, I determined to submit the case to your consideration, with the earnest request that you will authorize me to commute the punishment in this case, *with the assent of the convict* from death to confinement *for life* in the Penitentiary.

By resolution No. 54 of December session, 1842, the Governor was directed to distribute to the levy courts of the several counties, *one standard of the several kinds of weights and measures*, which should be received from the United States under the act of Congress of 1836. Under this resolution his Excellency, Governor Thomas, appointed J. H. Alexander, Esq., the agent of the State to receive the standards from the United States, and to prepare copies of each for distribution. The required number of "*standard yards*" have been completed, and delivered by Mr. Alexander to me for distribution amongst the several counties; and it is due to the agent of the State, that this "*measure of length*" should be inspected by you, that its mechanical finish and accuracy may be appreciated.—The construction of the standard copies of the weights and capacity measures, have not been commenced, and cannot be undertaken without further legislation. By the resolution above referred to, the Governor was undoubtedly empowered to appoint *and pay* an agent to prepare the different standards which he is thereby directed to distribute—the appointment of Mr. Alexander was consequently legal, and the expense which has been incurred by him in the prosecution of this work of the State, together with a full and liberal compensation for his services, now constitute *one* of the *obligations* of the State, which she has the ability to discharge, and one which I should have ordered to be paid, if I had possessed the power to do so. The Constitution of the State, as amended by the act of December session, 1843, chapter 339, and confirmed by the act of 1844, ch. 86, "prohibits any money being drawn from the Treasury of the State but in consequence of appropriations made by law."—Under my construction of this clause of the Constitution, I possessed no power to direct the payment to this agent of the State, either of the expense incurred or of the compensation manifestly due to him for his services as agent. I most respectfully submit the entire subject to your consideration, with the request that you will pay for the work so far as it has been executed, and give such specific instructions in reference to the construction of the other standards contemplated by the resolution of eighteen hundred and forty-two as to you may appear right. I have received from this agent of the State, an able and highly interesting report *on standards of weight and measure*, which I submit for your consideration, and I also submit his account for expenses incurred in the execution of that portion of the work already completed.

I have also received a communication upon the subject from A. D. Bache, Esq., the United States superintendant of weights and measures, informing me "that a large balance, intended for the adjustment of standard weights and capacity measures, to be furnished this State under the act of Congress, is now ready for delivery;" and suggesting the propriety of having a suitable building erected for its reception, and appending a drawing of a small building, which would be appropriate for that purpose. This communication and drawing I also submit as a part of this very interesting subject.

The duty is imposed on me by the acts of 1827, chap. 140, and 1839, chap. 28, to report to you what amount has been expended within the past year, under the provisions of those laws, for the education of the indigent blind, and deaf and dumb.—During the period indicated, the sum of $1,244.99 has been paid for the education of the blind, and $1,392.00 for the education of the deaf and dumb.

I have received, and will communicate to you, a very lucid and detailed report of the committee of the legislature, appointed under resolution No. 60 of December session, 1844, "to examine and burn the bonds certificates or other evidences of indebtedness of the State, as directed by resolution No. 8, of December session, 1840."

This report of the committee contains valuable information upon the important subject of their labors, and will, I am sure secure from you the consideration it merits.

I have received, and will transmit, various communications from many of our sister States, for each of which I ask your respectful and early consideration.

I cannot conclude this communication without adverting to the present critical position of the relations of our country with Great Britain, resulting from the claims of the two countries to the Oregon Territory.

I do not believe that a war between the two countries can *properly*, or in accordance with the public sentiment of *either* country, arise in the adjustment of this question. I have every confidence that the President of the United States is *sincerely* desirous to preserve *peace*, if *peace* can be maintained consistently with the honor and rights of the country. In my judgment, it would be inconsistent with the wisdom and prudence manifested by our Government, in the precautionary measures taken against Mexico, whereby the peace of the country was preserved, in the settlement of the Texas question, and repugnant to the opinion we should entertain of the *capacity of our Government*, to believe that war can *immediately* result from the conflicting opinions or *action* of the two Governments upon this question. No administration which has ever had the control of the Government, *could stand* against the general indignation which would follow the loss of life and property, consequent upon a war with Great Britain, entered upon without warning, and without any, the slightest preparation for defence.

No part of the Union would, in the event of war, be more exposed than Maryland; and if you should have less confidence than I have in the wisdom of the Federal Executive, it will be your paramount duty to make some provision for placing our State in a posture of defence.

If you should entertain, upon this momentous subject, an opinion different from mine, the thorough re-organization of the militia system will be imperatively required.

But may not this question be settled without injury to the rights of this, and consistently with the rights of both countries?

If, contrary to our expectations, Great Britain should *finally* reject the very liberal compromise offered by our Government would it in your judgment be injurious to the rights, or inconsistent with the honor of this country, to agree that this question of *title* should be settled by arbitration?

The diplomatic correspondence upon this question, between Mr. Packenham and Mr. Buchanan, has made a powerful impression upon the public sentiment of the country; and I believe that now the almost universal opinion is entertained in the country, that ours is the *better title* to the *whole territory*. What objection then, can exist, on the part of the Government, or people of this country (who concur in the opinion that our title is well founded) to the submission of this question to the arbitrament of well informed men, the citizens of some other country, who would have no interest in the controversy, and who would be guided solely by the desire to decide the question according to right and justice! Would not the portion of the territory already offered by our government as a compromise, be more than could be assigned to Great Britain by any arbitraters who would be selected? The President in reference to this question, is, I am persuaded, *only anxious to do right;* and to meet the expectations of the country. If then you should concur with me in opinion, that the acceptance by our government of a proposition to arbitrate this question, would not conflict with the rights, or be derogatory to the honor of our country; might not the expression of that opinion, as the sentiment of Maryland, in the contingency of such an offer being made by Great Britain, have some effect upon the counsels of the Nation, and consequent influence in preserving the peace of the country.

In conclusion, permit to assure you, that entertaining the most implicit confidence in your patriotism and judgement I shall co-operate with you to the utmost of my ability, to promote the welfare of our constituents, and *in peace or war*, to maintain the honor of our State.

THOMAS G. PRATT.

## Legislative Proceedings.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 6, 1846.

Mr. Murray presented a memorial from Geo. Johnston, relative to the style of executing the public printing, and proposing to do the current work of the session at $2500, (the quantity not to exceed that of the last session,) being a saving of about one half, and Mr. Biser presented a memorial from Taylor & Daley, proposing to do the work at a reduction of thirty per cent. Which were appropriately referred.

Mr. Murray submitted an order directing the committee on printing to contract with the person offering, by proposals, to do the public printing on the lowest terms. Also directing inquiry into the propriety of purchasing the files of the Maryland Gazette. Which were laid over.

Mr. Boone obtained leave to report a bill providing a reduction of the numbers of members of the Legislature.

The House adjourned.

THE Senate was engaged in acting upon some unimportant matters from the other branch.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 9, 1846.

In the HOUSE, the following gentlemen were appointed, by the Speaker, to compose a select committee of one from each county and the city of Baltimore, to constitute a committee on the Constitution:—Messrs. Hook, Jones, Rasin, Johnson, Allnutt of Calvert, Carpinter, Hall, Thomas, Gibbons, Boone, Hollyday, Bowie, Cook, Selby, Biser, Johns, Harrington, McLane, Dellinger, Holland and Schley.

REFORM.—Mr. Hollyday presented a memorial, signed by David Stewart, and others, on behelf of the "Reform Convention," held in Baltimore city, contemplating a call of a Convention by the Legislature to remodel the Constitution of Maryland. Mr. H. asked its reference to a special committee, as a matter of courtesy to the people, whose voice he believed was uttered in the memorial. He was successively followed by Messrs. Murray, Berry, Lowe and Cox, in favor of the call of a conventoin, and for referring the memorial as asked.

Messrs. Johnson, Clagett, Hook, Stephen, Frazier, Ege, Raisin and Dennis, spoke in favor of the memorial's going to the committee above named, and opposed to conventional reform—except Mr. Ege, of Carroll, who desired "reform," either by the Legislature or a Convention, he cared not which. The debate took quite an extensive range, in which, in brief, the whole ground at issue between the two classes of reformers—legislative and conventional—was traversed; forming a question that will occupy a very large share in the action of the present Legislature. The memorial was referred to the committee named above by a vote of 44 to 35.

On motion of Mr. Murray it was ordered that said committee report on the subject before the 10th of March; and the memorial was ordered to be printed.

It was ordered that inquiry be made by the Committee on Licenses as to the expediency of requiring retailers of ardent spirits to take out special licenses.

Mr. Bowie submitted an order directing the Judiciary Committeee to inquire into the necessity of repealing the 59th section of the constitution, as a preliminary step, if it be desired to call a convention to reform the constitution, which was laid on the table under a rule.

On motion of Mr. Carroll it was ordered that a national flag be purchased for the use of the State.

The House adjourned.

The SENATE granted leave to the committee on Elections to sit during the session of the body, with a view to bring the contested seat between Messrs. Quynn and Ross, the more speedily before the Senate.

After a brief session they adjourned.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM SIERRA LEONE—*Horrors of the Slave Trade.*—The U. S. Gazette has dates from Sierra Leone to the 30th August. Between April 1st, 1844, and 17th May, 1845, sixty vessels, with 5000 slaves on board, had been captured. Five of the vessels were destroyed, and the rest condemned.

Among the slavers captured was the "Africano." At the time it was taken there were 589, of which number 28 died on her passage to Freetown, and on the first night of her arrival there, 30 more were hurried into eternity. It appeared there were two distinct tribes among the negroes, and during the night they commenced quarrelling, and being mutually exasperated, commenced beating each other with billets of wood and whenever opportunity offered, strangling each other. The next morning *thirty* were found dead, and within two days after, five more died.—Five hundred and twenty-four were at length landed, and the Watchman says:

An eye witness informs us that the poor creatures were so thirsty that they drank the water out the ends of old canoes, which were hauled up on the beach, surrounding them like so many hounds after a hard chase, each pushing the other for a drop of water. On reaching the African yard they were supplied with water, which they drank out of mess tins with avidity. There was no slave deck on board of this vessel, and several of the poor creatures got jammed between the casks, and were severely bruised; these casks formed their beds to lie upon.

The officers of the Navy, who brought the "Africano," stated that the towns of Lagos, on the slave coast, have been completely destroyed. A chief, who was banished from Lagos by the King, about three years ago, returned in July last, with a force of ten thousand men, drove out the reigning King and his people, and took possession of the rivers and town of Onee.—It is said that in the contest, upwards of five thousand persons were slain, and during several nights, the glare of burning towns illuminated the air for miles around.

Some of the slavers pursued their trade in human flesh with great boldness, and one of them, a large brig, fired into and beat off the boats of British and Portuguese men-of-war.

FROM MEXICO—*Twelve Days Later—No Revolution Yet.*—We are indebted to the New York Herald for intelligence from Vera Cruz to the 14th ult, brought by the arrival at that port of the barque Ann Louisa, with $29,000 in specie on board.

Although there have been numerous reports here and everywhere of a revolution in Mexico, placing Paredes at the head of affairs, yet none of the papers received by the arrival lisp a word of it, they are as quiet and ignorant of any revolution, said to be in their very midst, as a newly born child.

Among the passengers in the Ann Louisa, is a bearer of despatches, and he may have some important intelligence.

The Vera Cruz papers announced the departure for the city of Mexico, of Sr. D. Juan Slidell, the American Minister.

The Secretary to the American Legation Mr. Parrott, had reached Vera Cruz in the U. States brig Porpoise.

The United States ship St. Mary's was to leave Vera Cruz on the 15th ult., for Pensacola. The Porpoise was to wait orders—probably from Mr. Slidell.

The Chamber of Deputies went into secret session on the 22d ult., and declared its sitting permanent, in order that the two Generals Paredes and Arista, might make certain communications to the government upon the movement of the troops of the United States upon Matamoras.

The position and movements of the U. States troops at Corpus Christi, ever since Gen. Taylor has been there, have excited much alarm, fear and jealousy in the minds of the Mexicans. They seem to be hourly expecting that the United States troops are about to march upon Matamoras, to seize upon that place, and thence, perhaps, to march to capture some other of their cities. Ever since our little army has been encamped at Corpus Christi, every movement has been watched, and if a few soldiers ride out to any distance in the country, the rumor immediately is carried to Mexico that the American troops are marching upon Matamoras, &c.

BURNING A TAX COLLECTOR IN EFFIGY!—In the proceedings of an anti-tax meeting, held in the 4th election district of Carroll county, published in the Westminister Democrat, we find it stated, after the passage of sundry revolutionary resolutions, that an *effigy* of the State Tax Collector was prepared, *hung up on the gallows! shot down!! and kicked about!!!* The meeting was addressed by Jacob Powder and John Malehorn, Esqs. The following is one of the resolutions passed at the meeting:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that any man who would undertake to collect the State tax for the benefit of European or American stock gamblers, brokers and speculators, would *bottle the sunshine, and huxter out the dews of Heaven!*

THE STA

EASTON, Md.

TUESDAY MORNING, JAN.

☞Our correspondents must bea for a little time. We shall be able to their communications probably n

We have been favored with a co remarks made by the Rev. Mr. Mc the Sabbath School Anniversary Christmas day. We expect to b publish the address in next Tuesda

INDIVIDUAL INFLUENCE.—Th title of an address delivered befor Michaels Lyceum, by Saml. A. M. D. From the hasty perusal been enabled to give it, we were st the author's exuberance of fancy, moral and instructive truths which presented in a manner that cann please and edify the reader. The o understand, in publishing the addr raise funds for the benefit of a Li tached to the Lyceum; an undert commendable that we think it su ensure the ready sale of the addre typography of the work is extrem It can be had of Mr. Charles Ro Easton, and the stores at the Oak chaels, and Bayside, at the low pri cents a copy.

TREASURER'S REPORT.—The report of Mr. Claude, Treasurer of M has been presented to the Legislatu a lengthy document, precluding the tion of a synopsis to-day. The b the treasury, 1st December 1845, w 412.16—insufficient to pay all liab that day by the sum of $1,236,764 report says—"Among the subjects lation at this time, the fact that the has received essential aid in the p from several internal improvemen nies is not the least. Should they anticipate, contribute an annually revenue to the Treasury, to that e lieving the citizens from taxation, though now justly regretting the improvident expenditures on them, ally have cause to congratulate that the works were undertaken."

CONGRESS.—This body (the least) is busily engaged in import ters. On Thursday, says the "Un House postponed the business usua ted to the early portion of the day. ber of reports from committees we amongst which were appropriation Mr. McKay, chairman of the Com Ways and Means, for the army, the civil list, the Indian departmen fortifications.

The debate on the joint resoluti tice to terminate the convention i to Oregon, was then resumed in C of the Whole on the state of the U

We shall hereafter give such p the debate as we may deem of inte message of Governor Pratt having ished in this morning's paper, we more room in our next for Congress Legislative summary.

The States of Tennessse and seem to be in earnest in their s unite the Atlantic and the Missi The Legislature of Tennessee has ed a company to construct a Rail Nashville to Chattanooga, the ter the Western and Atlantic Railroa

The Georgia Legislature has bill to extend the Western and Railroad. It authorizes the Go issue State bonds to an amount is thought, will continue the road Plains.

The Georgia Legislature have ed a bill to incorporate the Sout Railroad Company; which con the construction of roads from Albany, Fort Gaines, &c.

NAVAL.—The ship Cumberlan in commission on Saturday, and s ready for sea this week.

The sailing of the brig Boxe the Navy Yard, has been delayed of a surgeon.

The Princeton is still in do court of inquiry recently convened of her has closed its sittings, and of the fire was found to be in pu wooden bulk-head too near the b

The Cumberland is nearly read —*Boston Post.*

The Boston Mercantile Journa The Boxer has not yet sailed. came on a day or two since, for t to be sent to sea immediately. S detained in consequence of the i tion of her commander.

EXTENSIVE AND DARING RO The office of E. R. Hooper, Esq. at Law, of this town, was entere day night last by some person o and robbed of upwards of THIRTI DRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS in ca thief or thieves effected their through the back window, and a ing all the drawers found the key of his iron safe, in which t was deposited, and with this unl safe and took therefrom the ab leaving but five dollars in silver deposited in another part of the s a loss falls with a crushing weig young man just entering upon of life, and what adds to the for blow is the fact, that the money, exception of one hundred dollars ed to Mr. H's. clients, and must ed. We sincerely hope that will occut which will lead to the of the money, and the detection ishment of the offenders.—*C Chronicle of Saturday.*

IMPORTANT MOVEMENT—*Spe senger to Oregon.* According to lowing paragraph, from the New Herald of the 2nd inst. the Presi

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